

U. declivis. In consequence there are produced in this way many variations and malformed specimens.

A colony of *rough*, black and corroded *U. tetralasmus* was taken from a stream across which a boy could jump, and planted in a railroad tank of fifteen acres, newly made by the K. C. S. R. R. Two years after, one of their progeny was taken from this tank, with a yellow, smooth epidermis as hard and glossy as glass, and as distinct from *U. declivis* as *luteolus* is from *ligamentinus* (see pl. iii, upper figure).

In this connection, the writer would remark that in an article published several years ago (NAUTILUS XI, 3), under the caption "Conchological Notes from Louisiana," he spoke of the above-mentioned difference in habitat of *U. declivis* and *U. tetralasmus*. But at that time all of his specimens were named according to prevalent tradition, and he exactly *reversed* their names.

Like many other young collectors, the writer has in this way sent out numbers of shells with erroneous names, and helped to make confusion worse confounded. He hopes herein to correct at least one of these errors, and at the same time to render justice to that most excellent naturalist, Thomas Say.

By comparing the figure with that given by Conrad in his Monography, page 45 (and on which Mr. Call's synonymy is based, no doubt,) it will be seen that the shells of *U. declivis* and *U. tetralasmus* are utterly unlike.

EXPLANATION OF PLATE III.

Upper figure. *U. tetralasmus* Say. R. R. tank, De Soto, La.

Middle figure. *U. declivis geometricus* Lea. Dried bed of Lake Connisnia, La., showing stunting and periodicity of growth induced by successive droughts.

Lower figure. *U. declivis* Say. Bayou Plaquemine, La., at Church Point.

A NEW SPECIES OF METZGERIA.

BY WILLIAM HEALEY DALL.

The genus *Metzgeria* Norman, has hitherto been known from a single species, the *pusilla* of Sars or *alba* of Jeffreys. This is reported from the coast of Norway and the northeastern North At-

lantic in relatively deep water. A second species from the Santa Barbara Channel, California, has lately reached me.

Metzgeria californica n. sp.

Shell small, translucent white, with a pale straw-colored, dull, wrinkled and rather conspicuous periostracum; nucleus small, smooth, white, obliquely inclined, of nearly two whorls; there are four or five rounded subsequent whorls separated by a deep, not channelled, suture; sculpture of about nine rather prominent, rounded axial ribs extending from suture to suture and on the last whorl to the base, separated by wider interspaces and crossed by numerous subequal spiral threads, covering the whole shell, their wider interspaces striated by the incremental lines. Aperture about half as long as the shell, the outer lip sharp, the throat smooth and white; the pillar white, not callous, with three distinct, oblique plaits beside the slightly raised margin of the canal, these are only visible from the side of the aperture; anteriorly the pillar is tortuous, slightly recurved, open and rather wide. Length of shell 14, of aperture 7; width of shell 6 mm.

This species is easily discriminated from *M. pusilla* by its deeper sutures and more convex whorls, and by having a more tortuous pillar with three or four distinct oblique plaits instead of only two. On a direct view, at right angles to the plane of the aperture, the plaits are invisible, but are perfectly distinct from a point more laterally situated. The operculum is elongate-quadrate with apical nucleus. The shell, with other specimens from the same locality, was sent to the National Museum by J. H. Paine.

NOTICES OF NEW LAND SHELLS OF THE JAPANESE EMPIRE.

BY H. A. PILSBRY AND Y. HIRASE.

Eulota (Euhadra) quæsita var. *decorata* n. v.

Smaller than *quæsita*, and much more coarsely sculptured with irregularly spaced, fold-like striæ, which are well raised and in part light yellow; the ground-color of the shell being either that of *quæsita* or of the form *perryi*, the types being of the dark pattern.

Alt. 22, diam. 35 mm. (Ōkuki).

Alt. 18.5, diam. 28 mm. (Chojamura).